

## Message Text

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43

ACTION PM-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 DODE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 OMB-01 EB-11

AID-20 IGA-02 COME-00 TRSE-00 SR-02 ORM-03 HEW-08

IO-12 RSR-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 /116 W

----- 082049

O R 161700 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAko

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6970

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS BAMAko 1081

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: MASS, ML

SUBJECT: FMS PURCHASE OF TRUCKS FOR DISASTER RELIEF

1. GOM BECOMING INCREASINGLY AWARE THAT TRANSPORT CONSTRAINTS CONSTITUTE CRITICAL LIMITING FACTOR IN THEIR PROGRAM TO FEED MALIAN PEOPLE IN THIS VERY BAD DROUGHT YEAR. THEY SEE THAT EXISTING TRUCKS AND RAIL CAPACITY FOR TRANSSHIPMENT OF EMERGENCY GRAIN SUPPLIES FROM COASTAL PORTS ( DAKAR AND ABIDJAN) NOT SUFFICIENT TO DELIVER TONNAGES NEEDED TO PREVENT STARVATION. PROBLEM IS BEGINNING TO BE SEEN AS ONE OF AUGMENTING TRUCK CAPACITY IF POSSIBLE, AND OF PAYING FOR THESE TRUCKS. IN THIS CONTEXT, WE WONDER WHETHER FMS PURCHASE OF TRUCKS BY GOM THROUGH

DOD IS POSSIBLE, IN REASONABLE TIME FRAME. IF, AS SEEMS LIKELY, VEHICLES NOT READILY AVAILABLE THROUGH DOD SUPPLY SYSTEM, CAN FMS CREDIT BE USED TO PURCHASE US MANUFACTURED TRUCKS COMMERCIALY IN US,

EUROPE OR IN AFRICA? IN THIS EMERGENCY SITUATION CAN GOM BUY NON- US TRUCKS WITH FMS FUNDS?

2. WE HAVE NOT YET BROACHED THIS SUBJECT WITH DEFENSE MINISTER DOUKARA, WHO IS ALSO GOM' S COORDINATOR FOR DROUGHT RELIEF. HOWEVER, MIN DEF HAD PREVIOUSLY INDICATED DESIRE TO PURCHASE 5 OR 10- TON TRUCKS WITH BALANCE OF FMS CREDIT -- APPROXIMATELY \$350,000.

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3. OBVIOUSLY, WHATEVER IS DONE IN THIS REGARD MUST BE DONE WITH  
EXTRAORDINARY SPEED. MALIANS ARE FACED WITH EXTRAORDINARY  
SITUATION THAT WILL REQUIRE UNCONVENTIONAL AND IMAGINATIVE SOLUTIONS.  
REQUEST REPLY SOONEST ON LEGAL ASPECTS USE FMS FUNDS FOR THIS  
PURPOSE. WE WILL ADDRESS OTHER ASPECTS OF TRUCKING PROBLEM IN  
LATER MESSAGE AFTER COMPLETION STUDY TRUCKING SITUATION WHICH WE  
NOW UNDERTAKING WITH COOPERATION EMBASSY ABIDJAN.  
BLAKE

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980121  
**Subject:** FMS PURCHASE OF TRUCKS FOR DISASTER RELIEF  
**TAGS:** MASS, ML  
**To:** ABIDJAN  
DAKAR  
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SECSTATE WASHDC  
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